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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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- 1. The fall training exercises of the Soviet Army in Germany started on 20 September 1954, at first in the areas east of Letzlinger Heide, Nauen-Neuruppin, and Lieberose-Cottbus. The manoeuvres for troops from Thuringia and the Schwerin area were expected to begin after the assembly of rolling stock.
- 2. First Guards Mechanized Army. On 13 September the rocket-launcher regiment of the Army was observed at Meissen, and one medium-tank regiment and the tank training battalion of the 11th Guards Tank Division were at the Nachrichtenschule in Königs-brück. On 14 and 15 September the engineer battalion of the 9th Tank Division left the Mudra Kaserne in Riesa in the direction of Zeithain. Between 16 and 23 September three shipments of the AAA regiment of the 8th Guards Mechanized Division moved from Leisnig and Königsbrück to Jüterbog; the tank training battalion of this division was in Leipzig on 18 September.
- 3. Second Guards Mechanized Army. Up to 18 September Neustrelitz was still fully occupied by troops; among them some tank details from Döberitz were recognized. On the same date major elements of the signal regiment and the motorised rifle regiment of the 9th Guards Tank Division were absent from the Fürstenberg area, presumably for exercises. On 21 September elements of the 88th Engineer Regiment went in two shipments from Neubrandenburg to Ferchland on the Elbe. On 22 September all units of the 12th Guards Tank Division were at their post in Neuruppin. From 20 to 23 September the bulk of the 1st Mechanized Division was at exercises in the area between Nauen and Neuruppin; this included 107 armored personnel carriers and nearly 200 tanks. On 20 September nine T-34 tanks went from Döberitz to Netzeband; upon the termination of the exercise, troops returned in nine shipments from Netzeband to Döberitz (22-24 September).
- 4. Third Guards Mechanized Army. Four shipments of trucks and artillery, possibly belonging to the 7th Guards Tank Division and the 62nd AAA Division, moved from Dessau to Haldensleben. The bulk of the 9th Mechanized Division was still in the Peitz area up to 16 September.

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- 5. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army. The bulk of the 6th Guards Mechanized Division was at its post up to 18 September, although elements of its engineer battalion went by train to Altengrabow on 13 September. On 19 September three columns of 10-15 motor vehicles each left Bernau in the direction of Oranienburg. Major elements of the 7th Guards Mechanized Division were still at Lieberose up to 16 September; one shipment arrived there from Jüterbog on that date. On 19 September two shipments went from Berlin-Schöneweide to Neuhausen (south of Cottbus). On the same day elements of the 25th Guards Mechanized Regiment, including seven T-34 tanks and some artillery, entrained at Frankfurt an der Oder, destination unidentified.
- 6. The bulk of the 25th Tank Division was still in Templin up to 18 September. Between 9 and 15 September individual small tank details had departed from the Templin troop-training grounds, presumably for Prenzlau; there was a slight increase in the number of troops in the casernes in Prenzlau. Tank details of the 10th Guards Tank Division which had arrived at Letzlinger Heide on 14 September returned to Satzkorn on 22 September. Other elements were transferred from Satzkorn by rail on 21-22 September in 12 shipments to Peitz, Forst, and Klinge (east of Cottbus); these included 36 T-34 tanks and 38 JS and JSU, 15 armored personnel carriers, and an engineer battalion.
- 7. Third Shock Army. Elements of the 207th Motorized Rifle Division were at their posts in Stendal and Gardelegen up to 16 September. Elements of the 94th Guards Motorized Rifle Division were confirmed in Hagenow up to 17 September and in Schwerin and Wismar up to 18 September. On 20 and 21 September major entraining operations were scheduled in the area of the RBD Schwerin. A manocuvre in the area of Letzlinger Heide started after 19 September; troops departed from Hillersleben toward the Planken area, where exercises were allegedly to be held from 20 to 25 September. In the evening on 25 September, march columns possibly belonging to the IX Motorized Rifle Corps moved eastward from the direction of Wolmirstedt through Magdeburg with 800 motor vehicles and over 200 mortars, anti-tank guns, and AA guns.
- 8. Eighth Guards Army. On 21 September the RBD Cotthus was to dispatch empty flatcars to Ohrdruf; on 25 September one train went from Juterbog to Ohrdruf. On 18 September four troop trains departed from Altenburg. On 20 September one shipment of an engineer unit with pontoons and bridge-building equipment, coming from Belzig, moved through Halle. On 9 September elements of the 308th Artillery Brigade and the 57th Guards Motorized Division were identified as participating in unit exercises in the area of Forst Zeitz which had been going on since 22 August.
- 9. The rocket-launcher regiment, the AAA regiment, and the engineer battalion of the XXVIII Guards Motorized Rifle Corps were at their posts up to 14 September. The Plauen post of the 39th Guards Motorized Rifle Division was occupied to capacity up to 15 September. There were only rear details of the 20th Guards Mechanized Division at the Peitz post as of 12 September. The bulk of the 308th Artillery Division was in Gera on 17 September; the corps and division headquarters were still absent from their post in Naumburg, but the corps signal battalion and AAA regiment were in their casernes. Up to 17 September the situation at Kindel was unchanged. On 8 September units of the 21st Guards Mechanized Division were still in Lossa.
- 10. Fourth Artillery Corps. Units of the 2nd Guards AAA Division and the 25th Guards Rocket-Launcher Brigade were still at their posts on 17 September. After 13 September new and repaired uniforms were shipped from Rathenow to Altengrabow, presumably for use in the fall exercise.
- 11. Army Troops of the GSFG. Between 17 and 20 September three shipments went from Wünstorf to Altengrabow, Cottbus, and Hötensleben (near Letzlinger Heide). These are believed to have consisted of signal detechments.
- 12. It was reported at Doberitz on 10 September that the 1931 class of Soviet troops would be discharged in October 1954. On 20 September railroad authorities in Berlin and Halle were ordered to convert boxcars into troop-carrying cars.
- 13. Until the middle of September KVP training was impeded by employment in the harvest.

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